

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 12-14, 17, and 18 are now in the application. Claims 12-14, 17, and 18 are subject to examination. Claim 14 has been amended and is the only remaining non-allowed claim in the case. Claims 8-11, 15, and 16 have been canceled to facilitate prosecution of the instant application. Claims 12, 13, 17, and 18 have been allowed.

Under the heading "Allowable Subject Matter" on page 5 of the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 14 has been rewritten to include all of the limitations of claims 16 and 15. No new issue has been presented and therefore entry of the amendment after the final rejection is requested.

It appears that this case is in condition for allowance.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102" on page 2 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 8-10 and 14 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,476,516 to Reich under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 8-10 have been canceled to facilitate prosecution of the instant application. Claim 14 has been rewritten as has been indicated above.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103" on page 4 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 11 and 15 have been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,476,516 to Reich in view of Japanese Patent Publication JP404005538 to Gan under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 11 and 15 have been canceled to facilitate prosecution of the instant application.

Claims 12, 13, 17, and 18 have been allowed.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 14. Claim 14 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claim 14 and allowance of this case is solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Appl. No. 10/591,487
Amdt. Dated May 28, 2008
Reply to Office Action of April 3, 2008

Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Sterner LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

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MPW:cgm

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